

MACZAC Hotspots 5/18/2016

Maui - Rich

Lahaina harbor channel and Kihei boat ramp need dredging. We're on the understanding that administrators are only willing to move on this when it becomes an emergency, no longer functional. USCG uses Kihei boat ramp to land sick and injured from Molokini. PUC Ferries land at Lahaina Harbor for Lanai and Molokai not to mention huge revenue at both locations. A USCG mandated closure would have financial impact not only on operators but DOBOR as well.

Lahaina harbor waste oil facility is closed by DOBOR. Dumpster will look very handy to some.

I think we're still waiting for a response the HDOT regarding Honopiilani Highway realignment. This issue has not changed.

Maui - Dawn

Every morning on my way to work from Lahaina to Kahului I see Commercial tours operating at the beach. Today at 7:36 am I saw two tour buses and 5 trucks with kayaks doing commercial tours on the beach.

This is really crazy as activities are ramping up with more people, tour buses and kayakers.



Maui - Jim

Aloha Jim and Members of the MACZAC Committee,

Many thanks for the past efforts of your committee that helped us get the blessing of former chairman Aila to create a Working Group to amend HAR 13-256-130 Kanaha Restricted Zones (swim zones) in a co-operative way that best serves the community.

Please see the attached letter explaining the latest development on the issue.

We are researching whether the proper permits were obtained for the installation of the post or buoys.

We turn to you again to seek your support to rectify the dangerous situation that has been created with the installation of a post in the middle of a major ingress/egress location for kite surfers. For everyone's safety, we urge quick action to remove the dangerous post before the busy Memorial Day weekend and summer season. Would MACZAC consider writing a letter to the appropriate powers at DLNR to request their attention and consideration?

Aloha,

Patricia Cadiz
MBA Swim Zone Committee

Statewide – Lori



The expansion of Papahānaumokuākea is **an investment in our future** and the generations who will come after us. There is **no better place** for a large ocean refuge and now is the perfect time for an expansion. **If not now, when?**

History of Protection

- The **Papahānaumokuākea** Marine National Monument was declared in 2006 by President George W. Bush. The designation included protections to 50 nautical miles. At the time, it was the **largest marine protected area in the world**.
- Since 1909, **six presidents have protected areas in what is now Papahānaumokuākea**: Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Lyndon B. Johnson, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush.
- In President Obama's final year in office, there is an opportunity for the administration to use the Antiquities Act to expand the area of protection nearly 5-fold, making it the largest marine protected area once again, which would **leave a cultural and environmental legacy for future generations**.

- Expanded protections would eliminate or reduce impacts of present and future extractive activities such as **commercial fishing** as well as those posed by the imminent growth of **seabed mining**.

Science and Conservation

- The existing monument **protects 7,000 known species** of marine and terrestrial life, **25% of which are endemic**, found nowhere else on the planet.
- Habitats that will gain protections with an expansion include offshore pelagic (open water) areas, seamounts, submerged reefs, guyots (sunken islands), and banks. Nearly **110 seamounts, known as hotspots of biodiversity**, have been identified in the area of proposed expansion.
- Families of species that would benefit from an expansion of the monument include **monk seals, sea turtles, whales, dolphins, seabirds, sharks, billfish and tuna**. Specifically, the area is critical foraging habitat for:
 - 22 species of seabirds;
 - 22 species of whales;
 - More than one dozen species of sharks;
 - 4 commercially important species of tuna;
 - 5 species of threatened sea turtles; and
 - Endangered Hawaiian monk seals.
- Marine protected areas are **most effective** when they are:
 - Large;
 - Remote;
 - Highly protected;
 - Protected for a long time; and
 - Enforced.

Expanding the monument would make this ecosystem even more effective at conserving wildlife.
- The expanded areas will support the protection of bigger and older fish, especially **more big female fish**, which lay more eggs and those that are higher quality, both of which increase fish populations.
- According to data from NOAA's Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center, all of the real top predators of the ecosystem – **the marlins, the tunas, the sharks** – **have been declining in relative abundance for 15 years**, as indicated by catch rates.

Culture & History

- Papahānaumokuākea is considered a sacred area from which Native Hawaiians believe **all life began, and to which spirits return after death**. The ancient cosmological chants, such as Kumulipo link Native Hawaiians genealogically to **all life that originated in this region**.
- Native Hawaiians consider the ocean a deity, or god, and a host to numerous marine and avian life. They have an **ongoing relationship with the biocultural resources** of Papahānaumokuākea.

This sacred region provides a critical setting for Native Hawaiians of all generations to access for spiritual communication and interaction with these resources.

- The practice of traditional wayfinding and voyaging—which is one of the most unique living traditions of the world—requires protection of the entire marine environment and open waters, not just the islands, **because it relies on biological signs and natural phenomenon**, such as winds, waves, currents, and the presence of marine life and birds at key moments and locations.
- Ecological protection of Papahānaumokuākea has and will continue to nurture **connection and revitalize Hawai‘i and its living indigenous culture**.
- **The Office of Hawaiian Affairs is being advocated for as a co-trustee** of Papahānaumokuākea. For the first time, Native Hawaiians will have an equal role in resource management.
- The **industrial scale** of past and present extraction is counterproductive and incompatible to the Hawaiian culture and values, which believes that certain areas are considered sacred and should be off-limits to any disruption and impacts.
- The remains of the **Battle of Midway**, most notably the wreck of the aircraft carrier **USS Yorktown**, lie in the area of proposed expansion.

Economic Impact & Fisheries

- The area being proposed for expansion is **not a major fishing** ground according to publicly available data from NOAA. In fact, log books show that the **effort in the region has been decreasing over the last five years**. To be specific, in 2015, the fishing effort in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands was only 5%.
- Hawai‘i longline catch quotas are set by the negotiations that take place at the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. This year, the fleet is expected to reach their quota for 2016 in June. **Expanding the boundaries of the monument will not reduce the catch quota and therefore will have minimal economic impact on the fishery**.
- When the Hawai‘i-based longline fleet reaches annual catch quotas, their vessels are not tied up at the dock. The fleet simply **moves to the eastern Pacific to fish or purchases bigeye tuna quotas from the U.S. territories** so they can continue to fish. They buy these quotas from U.S. territories before they reach their own quota, so that there is no disruption in their fishing efforts, despite the fact that this counters the science-based quotas for each region and is not sustainable to the ecosystem.

EXPAND PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA

He Pu'uhonua no Hawai'i  A Sanctuary for our Ocean Heritage

Understanding the role of *Aloha 'Āina* (love of the land) in traditional resource management; and

Observing that the existing borders of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument do not allow for the proper care and management of known, newly discovered and/or little understood deep sea ecosystems and populations of migratory birds, fish, mammals, and sea turtles; and

Being aware that Papahānaumokuākea is considered a sacred area from which Native Hawaiians believe life springs and to which spirits return after death, and is a place where Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners of today go to deepen their lineal ties to their ancestors and gods, and is home to native species inextricably connected to the integrity of their culture; and

Keeping in mind the quality of the world's oceans continue to deteriorate, and that scientists now recommend protecting 30% of all marine habitats in fully-protected, no-take marine reserves, and only about 2% of the ocean has been set aside as fully protected marine reserves; and

Welcoming the opportunity for Hawai'i to once again be a world leader in ocean conservation and call to other nations to take action;

Recognizing the service of America's veterans and the importance of the Battle of Midway to the Freedom we enjoy today; and

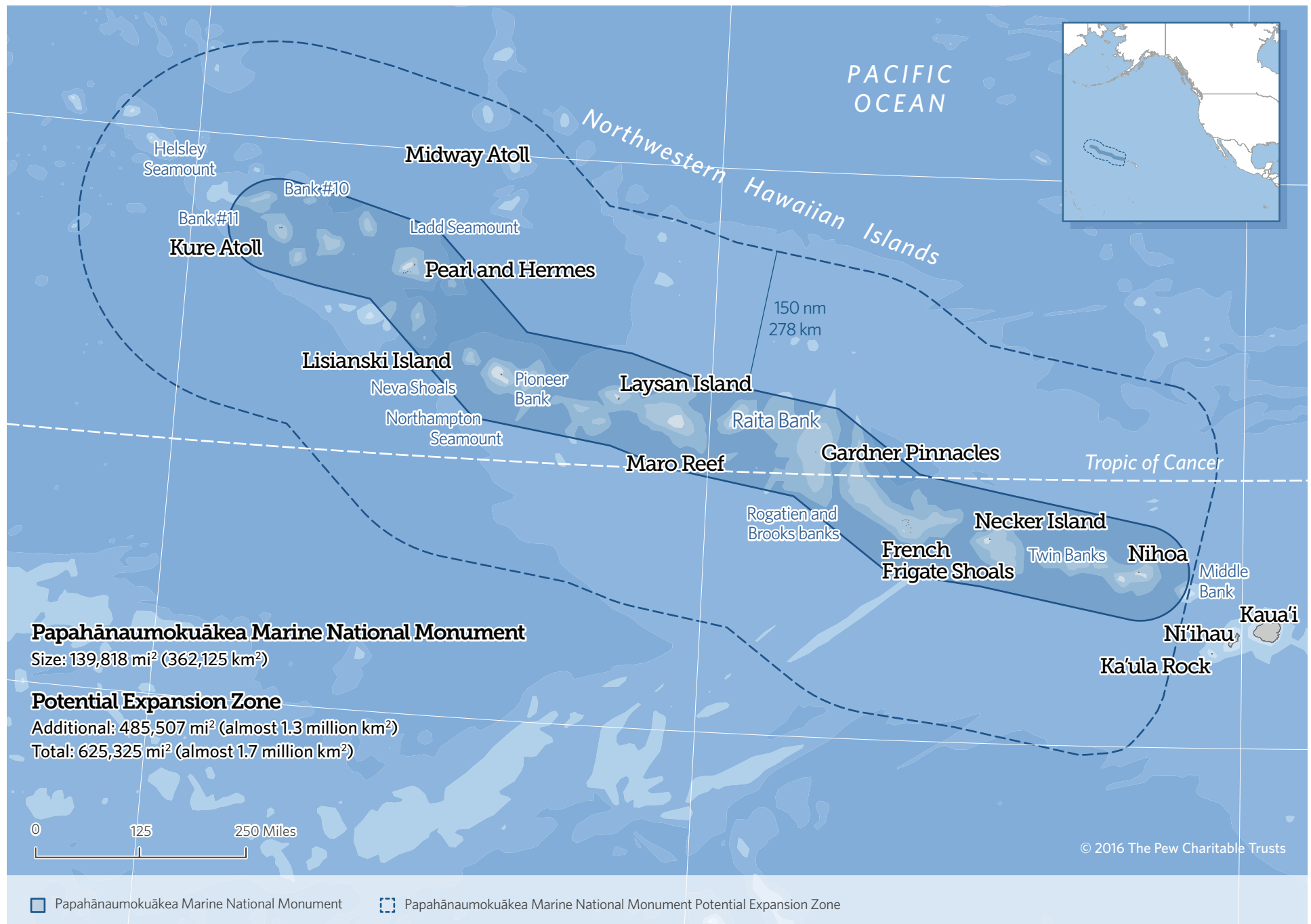
Believing that Native Hawaiians through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs should have an equal role in the management of important cultural resources; and

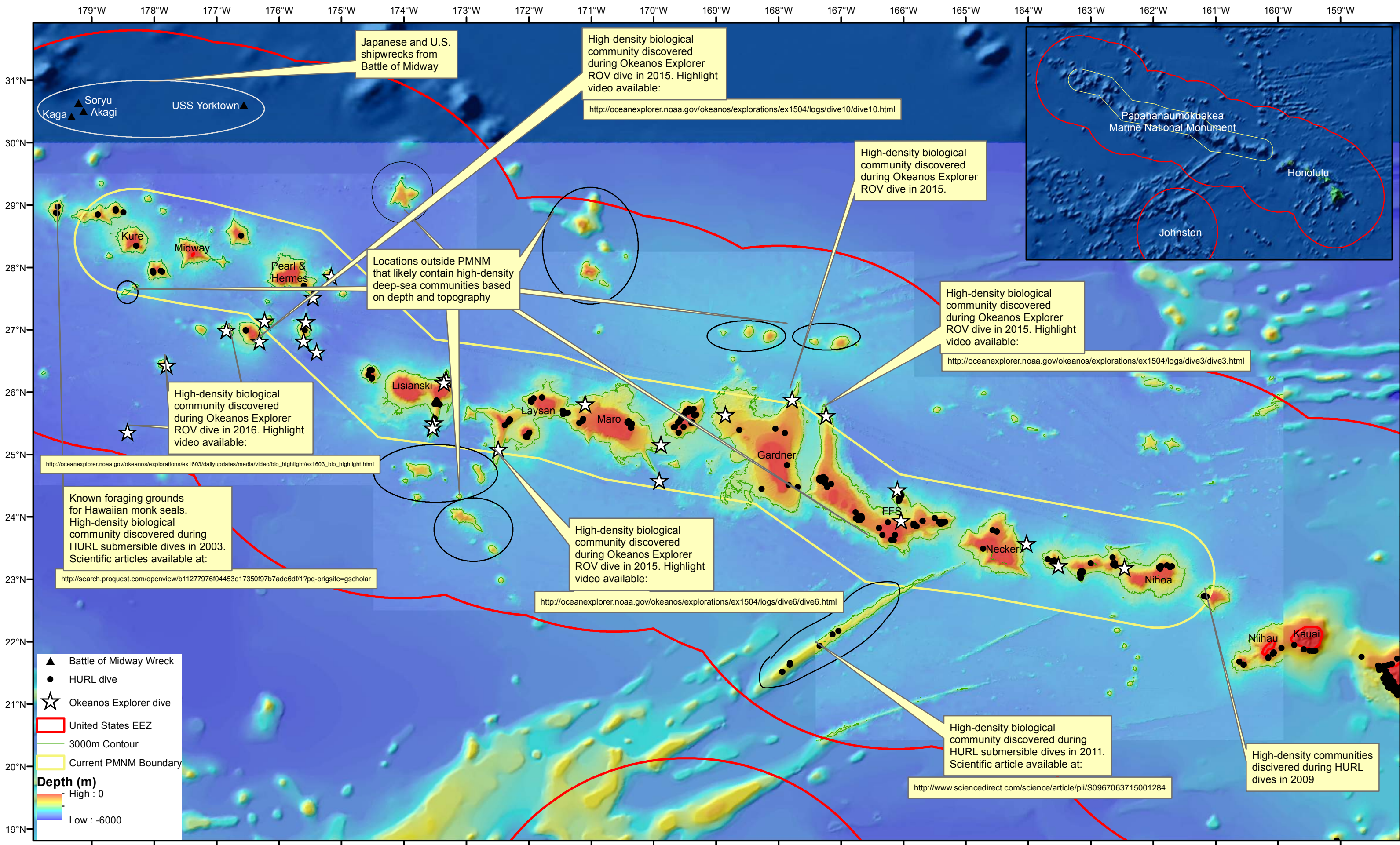
Wishing to assure the preservation and protection of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands in their full context for future generations,

We the undersigned, do hereby petition the President of the United States, Barack Obama, to expand Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument to the full extent of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone, excluding the waters surrounding Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, and grant co-trusteeship to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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Native Hawaiian Proposal for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Expansion





April 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United State of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As a member of the Hawai'i State Legislature, I write in support of expanding the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

For our Native Hawaiian community, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands are where life began. Today, marine life thrives within the monument because it was protected by your predecessor 10 years ago. However, there are important cultural and biological resources that fall outside the current boundary of the monument. Expanding Papahānaumokuākea will help protect these resources and increase our resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Extending the monument boundary to the full 200 nautical mile limit of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands exclusive economic zone (EEZ) - excluding the waters around of Ni'ihau and Kaua'i - would protect one of the most unique ocean ecosystems on the planet. Within this diverse isolated region, there are more than 7,000 marine species, and scientists estimate that more than a quarter of those are endemic. The area is one of the few remaining predator-dominated ecosystems in the world, with strong populations of sharks, Hawaiian grouper and other large predatory fish that have been heavily overfished elsewhere.

While the current boundary of Papahānaumokuākea includes vital habitat for a number of species, it does not fully protect habitat and travel routes for several species including Hawaiian Monk Seals, green sea turtles, sharks, whales, Black-footed and Laysan Albatrosses as well as other species. It is important to note that all of these biological species are also considered cultural species by Native Hawaiians.

The area proposed for expansion is not a major fishing ground and log books show that the effort in the region has been dramatically decreasing over the last five years. The Hawai'i longline catch quotas are set by the negotiations that take place at the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, so extending the boundary of the monument will not reduce catch and therefore have no economic impact on the fishery.

Finally, Mr. President, Hawai'i is honored to host the World Conservation Congress in September of this year. This global event presents an opportunity for Hawai'i the United States to lead the world once again on one of humanity's greatest challenges - improving the health of the ocean. Expanding the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is the single biggest step you can take to leave a historical legacy for future generations.

Mahalo for your consideration and we look forward to seeing you on your next trip to your birth state of Hawai'i.

Aloha,